

**Official Newsletter of
the DelMarVa
Airstream Club #026**

February 2023

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THE DELMARVA BEACON



Photo by Betty Schwarz

**WBBCI: Wally Byam
Caravan Club International Inc.**

airstreamclub.org

Blue Beret online

blueberet@airstreamclub.org

**DelMarVa
Airstream Club #026**

airstreamclub.org/delmarva



DelMarVa Airstream Club #026 Officers and Volunteers

President.....
Andy Dowell

1st Vice President.....
Vacant

2nd Vice President.....
Vacant

Recording Secretary.....
Katharine Dowell

Treasurer.....
Chuck Helwig

Trustees.....
Katharine Dowell
Charlie Michels
Mike Field

Member Engagement

Membership Chair.....
Roger Sansom

Webmaster.....
Andy Dowell

Newsletter Editor.....
Denis Clements

DelMarVa Club President

By Andy Dowell, BRN# 06684, President DelMarVa Airstream Club



Hello DelMarVa Members:

And welcome to 2023! The weather has been rather nice lately, very tempting to hook up the Airstream and head off to the nearest state park.....oh, wait, it's January....which will be followed by February, typically the coldest most winter-like month of the year. Maybe hook up and head for warmer climes? We did that a few years ago, prior to the pandemic.....we spent 2 Februarys in Florida, had a wonderful time getting used to the trailer and towing, meeting friends old and new, seeing

great sites like the Everglades, the Keys, Kennedy Space Center, Dry Tortugas. And we stayed at the Land Yacht Harbor and Paradise Park Airstream parks, along with many other very nice campgrounds. But this year we're staying close to home until summertime.

Make sure you have on your calendars our annual Maintenance Rally, being held April 28-30 at the Queen Anne County 4H Park in Centreville Md. This is a great way to meet fellow club members, and members from our neighboring clubs. It's also a great time to make sure your rig is ready to hit the road for your next great adventure. There will be Airstream experts on hand, with specialty tools, lubricants, etc., ready to answer your questions and help you get your rig in shape. Make sure to get your coupon and fee in the mail to Chuck by March 15. We need at least 11 units to sign up in order to break even, as the fairground, like so many other businesses, has raised its fees.

We are still in need of a Vice President. If you feel called to serve your local Club, please let me know. It's not a lot of work, and the extra set of hands will be much appreciated!

**Safe Travels, and we hope to see you down the road!
Andy Dowell, BRN#06684**

DelMarVa Airstream Club Calendar

- Joint Maintenance Rally
 - DelMarVa Airstream Club Dinner and Business Meeting
 - Location: Queen Anne's County 4H Park, Centreville, MD
 - Dates: Tentative 21 April 28 – 30, 2023
 - Contact: See Page 10
- May: TBD
- Region 2 Annual Rally
 - Location: Niagara Falls, Ontario
 - Dates: 2 June – 6 June, 2023
 - Contact: TBD
- 66th International Rally
 - Location: Rock Springs, WY
 - Dates: 24 June – 30 June, 2023
 - Contact: Check the ACI Website
- July: TBD
- August: TBD
- Fall Business Meeting with Installation of Officers
 - Dates and location to be determined

Region 2 President

By RJ Marquette, BRN# 13270, President, Region 2

Hello DelMarVa Members

Preparations for the 2023 Region 2 rally are well underway, and it's shaping up to be a good time. We'll get registration open soon, and I'll alert the club presidents and newsletter editors when it opens. I'm happy to report that Can-Am RV Centre in London, Ontario is giving us a generous donation that will cover many of the expenses for the rally, lowering the registration fee drastically. If you haven't booked with the campground, please contact Greg at +1 (800) 263-2570 to book your site. The rally is being held June 2-6 at Jellystone Park, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

If you are crossing from the United States to go to the rally, you will need your passport. Also, note there are restrictions on what we can bring across the border. In particular, firearms and ammunition are not allowed. There are also restrictions on food, and if you are bringing pets, you will want to check the rules for them. We have more info on the 2023 Region 2 Rally page here: <https://airstreamclub.org/region-2/2023-region-2-rally>

We're starting to think about the 2024 Region 2 rally, too. We have lists of fairgrounds, but I know there are private campgrounds out there that could hold 75-100 of us. If you know of a campground that might be interested in hosting a region 2 rally, please drop me a line at rjm1@yahoo.com. If your club is interested in hosting next year's region 2 rally, please let me know!

See you down the road!
RJ Marquette, BRN# 13270

The Campground, Caravan, Rally, and Road Trip Corner

(Tell us about your interesting experience at a Campground on a Caravan at a Rally or on a Road Trip to share with our members)

Airstream Caravan of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, 2022

Story and Photos by Betty Schwarz, BRN# 4266

The highlight of our year was joining an Airstream Caravan of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. This is where the Yoopers live, above the Mackinaw Bridge. Of course, our 15-day trip concluded with a carriage tour around Mackinaw Island and a luncheon at the Grand Hotel.

Along the way we stayed in five distinct campgrounds, three days each, all but one on a Great Lake, including Michigan, Superior, and Erie. The caravan leaders have done this trip for many years and everyday there was something planned or suggested to see. Five times there was dinner waiting for us in interesting venues. The lakes were a clear blue-green reminding us of tropical seas. Campers from seventeen Airstreams from as many states, Florida to Washington plus Israel, shared the love of Airstream travel and meeting others like them.



Our first campground was in Manistique, Indian Lake State Park, with our shady sites right on Lake Michigan with a straight short walk to the beach. We visited the Fayette Historic State Park where the town was built in 1867 when the Jackson Iron Company built a blast furnace to turn iron ore into pig iron, so it could be shipped to steel manufactures in other parts of the country. It was raining that day, as it did now and then, since the

Upper Peninsula is known for that.

The next day we went to the Seul Choix Point Lighthouse; the point which was named by the French fur traders as a safe stop with their canoes on the way to the straits of Mackinaw.





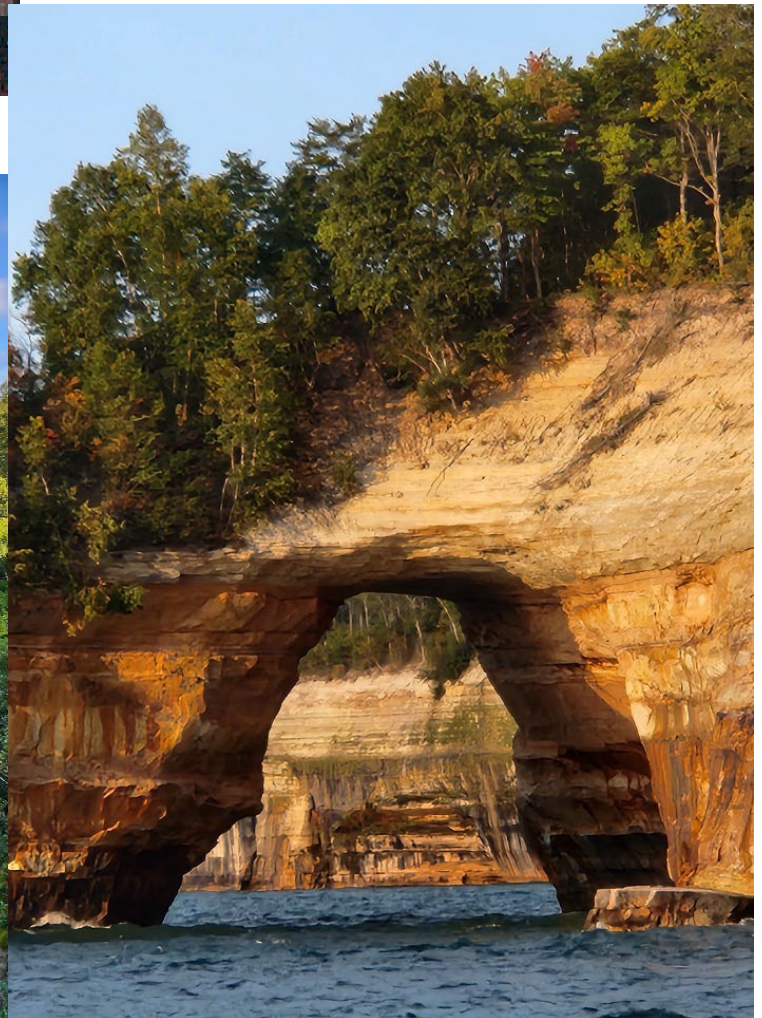
Seul Choix Point Lighthouse

The first two evenings of the trip we all met in the campground's conference building with a fireplace blazing, dinner provided, and followed a pattern of changing tables to meet two or three other couples. For 20 minutes each time we talked about ourselves in relation to a suggested topic, like favorite hobbies or camping trips. By the third day, we felt we knew everybody and were comfortable camping or eating next to others in the caravan. Also, the first night, every couple had their picture taken and the next day we had a printout of pictures with names underneath.

Next, we headed north across the UP and camped in Munising on Lake Superior. We hiked and saw the Pictured Rocks from above and the next day were on the boat tour.



Pictured Rocks





And more hiking! Blaine and Betty Shwarz

Our third campground was inland at Newberry. We had dinner at a country club. We drove the next day back north to Lake Superior for the Shipwreck Museum which tells the story of the Edmund Fitzgerald, made famous to the rest of the country by the Gordon Lightfoot song.



The following day we left the campground for a surprise, the summer home of 60 Alaskan Huskies sled dogs training for the Iditarod. Such fun to hold them.

Time to move on to campground four, Sault Ste. Marie, the locks connecting Lake Superior and Lake Erie, with Canada across the canal. If we had our passports with us, we would have walked the International Bridge.



The group spent a day on a tour boat going through the Locks. Upon return we made a campfire, played lawn bocci, and listened to our own bagpiper playing for the Queen's funeral.

Our last campground was in St. Ignatius with a view of the Mackinaw Bridge, once again on Lake Michigan. The highlight of the trip for me was to tour Mackinaw Island, which is 75% a state park. No vehicles are allowed on the island, so we toured in a horse drawn carriage for two hours, ending at The Grand Hotel for lunch and a tour of the resort.





Fifth floor Bar Room at The Grand Hotel: Friends of Betty and Blaine --Betty and Blaine Schwarz

Leaving the Upper Peninsula to join the Michigan “trolls”, those who live below the bridge.



On the way home we camped along Lake Michigan, Michigan’s west coast, starting with Traverse City, which has a wooded city campground.

It was interesting to see the sand dunes and long beaches, and this is the “camps”, or cottages, we have heard about from our Florida friends who summer on Lake Michigan.



We can highly recommend Airstream Caravans and are looking forward to our next one: Springtime in Kentucky.

I wrote a poem to share the last night around the cookout as we all said our goodbyes. It summarized our shared experiences.

*Rain, Sun, Wind, Fog, Cold
Lakes of vast beauty were threefold
Over water on ferry, catamaran, and lock boat
Over land in truck, bus, and horse-drawn carriage
To beach, rocks, boulders, arches, and sheer walls of stone
Come by bridge of lights, long and high,
To experience parks and forests and the work on land and sea
Shipwrecks, lighthouses, and life before, and now for MI sled dogs
A caravan of Streamers with much to share of lives well lived
And even a bagpiper in his kilt playing for the Queen.
But foremost Lori and Chip, ever prepared, with smile and stories,
A journey for remembering in the mind and in the camera as well.*

By: Betty Schwartz

This Month's Featured Caravan or Rally:



Joint Maintenance Rally 2023 DelMarVa – Keystone – Mid Atlantic

**April 28, 29, 30 – 2023
(No Thursday Arrivals)**

Venue:
4-H Park
1945 4-H Park Road
Centreville, MD 21617

Rally Fee \$ 150.00 / Trailer

Rally Fee Includes:

- Two nights camping with water and electric.
- Dump station available on Sunday.
- Dinner on Saturday evening.

Supplies for maintenance tasks; torque wrench, propane leak detector, battery tester, fluids, etc. will be provided.

Rally Coupon

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Club: _____

e-mail: _____ Cell: _____

Specific maintenance questions or topics you would like covered at the Rally:

To register for the rally: clip the rally coupon and mail with check to:

Charles Helwig
206 Rocky Meadow La.
Dover, DE. 19904

Sign-up Deadline: March 15

Make checks payable to: Delmarva Airstream Club

Contact Number: 302-270-7618

Contact e-mail: helwigcw@icloud.com

To hold the rally we need a minimum of eleven units signed up by March 15

The 66th International Rally

Join us for the 66th International Rally in Rock Springs, WY

REGISTER ONLINE (login required).

Rock Springs, incorporated in 1888, is the largest city in Sweetwater County. Downtown Rock Springs has a long history of being a stopping point for everyone from early-day pioneers and bank robbers (Butch Cassidy earned his nickname working at a butcher shop in Downtown Rock Springs!) to modern-day travelers.



More about Things to Do in Sweetwater County

A close-knit community of diverse immigrant coal miners from 56 nations laid the foundation of the town's culture. Downtown Rock Springs boasts more than 15 locally owned bars and restaurants that are reflective of the city's multiculturalism. You can nosh on everything from all-American fare at Broadway Burger Station to Mexican food at Los Primos. A Rock Springs landmark since the 1930s, Boschetto's European Market & Deli was founded by Ben Boschetto who immigrated to Rock Springs from northern Italy.

The Bitter Creek Brewery offers legendary microbrews combined with a delectable menu. Remedies is a blast-from-the-past soda fountain and retro-style diner. You can get the best coffee drinks in town at Java Peddler, a unique barista business in a bike shop. For after dinner drinks, the Park Lounge serves up spirits with a smile and even hosts live local music.

Entertainment is easy for you to find in Downtown Rock Springs. The newly refurbished Broadway Theater is a live performance venue that hosts sold-out concerts, special events and other performances. The Community Fine Arts Center features a high caliber of blue-chip art and a performing arts program not typically found in communities the size of Rock Springs.

Meet the DelMarVa Airstream Club Officers and Volunteers

Being new to the DelMarVa Airstream Club myself, I thought it would be great to publish photos of our Officers and Volunteers at the beginning of the year so you might be able to pick them out at the upcoming meetings and rallies.



**Andy Dowell, President
And Webmaster**



**Katharine Dowell, Recording Secretary
And Trustee**



Chuck Helwig, Treasurer
(with Maggie)



Mike Field, Trustee



Charlie Michels, Trustee
(with Nancy Eldridge)



Roger Sansom, Membership Chair
(with Celeste)



**Denis Clements, Newsletter Editor and Flag Bearer
At The Fryeburg, ME International Rally**

The Looking for Information and Advice Corner

If you would like to post a question or comment for the DelMarVa Airstream Club folks, please let me know.

Looking for nuggets that would be good info for our club members.

Looking for questions that you would prefer to keep in the club.

Editorial Review

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Send articles and content to the Newsletter Editor, Denis Clements: denis.clements@gmail.com

Articles submitted for publication must be sent to the newsletter editor by the 20th of the month preceding publication. Kindly use AIRSTREAM NEWSLETTER in the email subject line.
